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ABSTRACT

A follow-up survey on the employment of the 55 recent (1973-1976) graduates of the Operating Room Technician (ORT) program at William Rainey Harper College revealed that 51.2% of the 41 respondents had some college work prior to Harper enrollment; 63.5% were currently employed full-time, 14.5% part-time, 17% were voluntarily unemployed, and 5% were employed by the Armed Services. Of those employed, 85% found jobs easily, 41% by themselves, 24% with help from the program coordinator, and 20% through program internships; 82% were employed as ORT's and 12% in health-related fields; 66% had jobs within the Harper district; and salaries averaged $8,600 per year. Graduates were most satisfied with their present work, and least satisfied with the future potential of their present job. Over half planned further education in health-related fields, and 22% were enrolled in college. Of 30 graduates taking the National Certification Exam for ORT, 23 passed. In general, graduates felt they were well prepared by Harper. Itemized results are given and the questionnaire is appended. (RT)

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FOLLOW-UP STUDY OF OPERATING ROOM TECHNICIAN GRADUATES

Vol. VIII, No. 9
April 10, 1977

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Coordinator, Operating Room Technician

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William Rainey Harper College

JC 770 491

ABSTRACT

THE PURPOSE OF THIS STUDY WAS TO EVALUATE THE OPERATING ROOM TECHNICIAN PROGRAM AND ITS CURRICULUM AND TO PROVIDE A BASIS FOR PLANNING THE FUTURE OF THIS PROGRAM. THE STUDY INVOLVED MAILING A FOLLOW-UP SURVEY INSTRUMENT TO 55 FORMER GRADUATES OF THE HARPER ORT PROGRAM. AFTER A POSTCARD REMINDER AND A TELEPHONE CALL, RESPONSES WERE OBTAINED FROM ALMOST 75 PERCENT OF THE ORIGINAL SURVEY POPULATION.

RESULTS OF THE STUDY SHOWED MOST OF THE ORT ALUMNI OF HARPER ARE STAYING IN THE FIELD AFTER GRADUATION. OVER THREE-FOURTHS ARE NOW EMPLOYED AND ALMOST ALL FOUND THEIR JOBS EASILY. CONSIDERING THOSE EMPLOYED, 79 PERCENT ARE ORT'S WHILE ANOTHER 12 PERCENT ARE IN OTHER HEALTH RELATED FIELDS.

HARPER ORT GRADUATES SEEM SATISFIED WITH MOST ASPECTS OF THEIR JOB BUT SEEM LEAST SATISFIED WITH THE FUTURE POTENTIAL OF THEIR CAREER. MOREOVER, OVER HALF ARE EITHER IN COLLEGE NOW OR ARE PLANNING TO RETURN TO COLLEGE IN THE FUTURE WITH ALMOST ALL MAJORING IN NURSING OR OTHER HEALTH RELATED FIELDS.

IN GENERAL, GRADUATES FELT THEY WERE WELL PREPARED BY HARPER FOR THE CENTRAL REQUIREMENTS OF AN ORT POSITION.

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Purpose

The coordinator of the Operating Room Technician Program, Shirley Phillips, and the Advisory Committee, requested that a follow-up study be conducted among the program's graduates. The purpose of the study was to evaluate the program and its curriculum and to provide a basis for planning the future of the ORT program.

Method

The survey, shown in the appendix, was developed by the Office of Planning and Research with the approval of and input by the Coordinator and the Advisory Committee. This survey was mailed to the target population and three weeks later a postcard reminder was sent to all the non-responders. After another three weeks an attempt was made to survey the remaining non-responders directly over the telephone.

Population Surveyed

Every Harper graduate of the Operating Room Technician Program from the 1972-1973 class to the 1975-1976 class were surveyed. After using the follow-up procedures described previously, the following response rates were obtained.

	Number	Percent
Completed surveys returned in the mail	27	49.1
Response obtained over the telephone	14	25.4
Total response	41	74.5
Graduates who could not be reached	14	25.5
Total number of ORT graduates	55	100.0

A 75 percent response rate should give an accurate profile of the ORT graduate and their evaluation of the program. The response rate by year of graduation from Harper was as follows.

	Year of Graduation				
	1973	1974	1975	1976	Total
Number of responses	6	10	10	15	41
Population	11	14	14	16	55
Response rate				93.8	74.5

Discussion of Results

Over half the ORT alumni had some college experience prior to enrolling at Harper with 12 percent having achieved a degree or certificate. About 38 percent of those with prior college experience were majoring in health related fields.

In examining their present situation, 63½ percent of the ORT alumni are employed full-time while 14½ percent are employed part-time and five percent are in the Armed Services. The 17 percent who are unemployed have chosen that voluntarily and are not searching for a job now. Job hunting was not difficult for these graduates as 85 percent found their jobs easily. The biggest bulk, 41 percent, found their jobs by themselves while 24 percent had help from the coordinator and 20 percent found their job through their clinical experience or the job they held while at Harper.

The alumni employed are for the most part remaining in the field as 82 percent are employed as ORT's and another 12 percent are employed in health related fields. Only two people or six percent are employed in fields unrelated to health.

About two-thirds of those employed have jobs within the Harper District and 44 percent of those employed had positions with Northwest Community Hospital. The average salary of the ORT alumni is $8600 per year.

The former Harper ORT graduates are most satisfied with their present work environment, their job duties and the people they work with but are least satisfied with the future potential of their present job. This last fact is reflected in the follow-up data showing over half of ORT alumni are planning to continue their education in nursing or some other health related field. About 22 percent are enrolled in college now.

About 55 percent of the respondents have passed the National Certification Exam and 82 percent of those working as ORT's have passed this exam. In total, 30 graduates have taken the exam with 23 passing (77 percent).

In evaluating how important and how frequently they used certain job knowledge and skills, it was evident that areas close to the core of ORT were judged to be most important. It was also in these areas that the ORT alumni felt best prepared by Harper. Only knowledge and skill areas which were peripheral to ORT were judged as less important and only in these areas did graduates receive less than adequate preparation. In general, graduates felt they were well prepared by Harper for the central requirements of an ORT position.

Major Conclusion

Most of the ORT alumni of Harper are staying in the field after graduation. Over three-fourths are now employed and almost all found their jobs easily. Considering those employed, 79 percent are ORT's while another 12 percent are in other health related fields.

Harper ORT graduates seem satisfied with most aspects of their job but seem least satisfied with the future potential of their career. Moreover, over half are either in college now or are planning to return to college in the future with almost all majoring in nursing or other health related fields.

In general, graduates felt they were well prepared by Harper for the central requirements of an ORT position.

DETAILED RESULTS

A. College Experience Prior to Enrolling at Harper

Experience	Number	Percent
No previous college education	20	48.8
Had taken college courses but had not obtained a degree or certificate	16	39.0
Had achieved a degree or certificate previously	5	12.2
Total	41	100.0

Major Area of Concentration of Those Who Had Taken Courses Previously but had Not Obtained a Degree or Certificate

Liberal Arts	4	25.0
Nursing	4	25.0
Biology	1	6.25
Medical Lab Technician	1	6.25
Art History	1	6.25
Computer Programming	1	6.25
No major field	4	25.0
	16	100.0

Type of Degree or Certificate and Major Area of Study

Degree or certificate	Major Area
B.A.	Biology
B.S.	Elementary Education
A.S.	Science
A.A.	Not specified
Certificate	Dental Assistant

B. Present Status After Graduating From Harper

Present Status	Number	Percent
Employed full-time but not enrolled in college	23	56.1
Employed full-time and am enrolled in college part-time	3	7.3
Employed full-time and enrolled in college full-time	0	0
Enrolled in college full-time and employed part-time	3	7.3
Enrolled in college full-time but not employed	0	0
Enrolled in college part-time and employed part-time	2	4.9
Employed part-time but not enrolled in college	1	2.4
Enrolled in college part-time but not employed	1	2.4
In the Armed Forces	2	4.9
Unemployed and not enrolled in college but seeking employment	0	0
Housewife	5	12.2
Not employed or enrolled in college for some other reason	1	2.4
	41	100.0

C. Present Status by Year of Graduation

Present Status	1973	1974	1975	1976	Total	Percent
Working as an ORT	3	4	7	14	28	68.3
Working as a R.N.	1	1	0	0	2	4.9
Working as a medical claims examiner	0	1	0	0	1	2.5
Work in fire protection paramedics	1	0	0	0	1	2.4
Part-time in nursing college	0	1	0	1	2	4.9
Police woman	0	1	0	0	1	2.4
Housewife	1	2	2	0	5	12.2
Unemployed	0	0	1	0	1	2.4
Total	6	10	10	15	41	100.0

D. Present Educational Goals After Graduating from Harper

Education Goals or Status	Number	Percent
Enrolled in the fall of 1976 full-time	3	7.3
Enrolled in the fall of 1976 part-time	6	14.6
Plan to enroll in a college within the next year	6	14.6
Plan to continue my education sometime in the future	7	17.1
Have no plans at present to continue my education	10	24.4
Undecided about my future educational goals	9	22.0
	41	100.0

Those Enrolled Full-Time Presently

Major Field	College
Nursing ADN	Harper
Nursing ADN	Harper
Nursing ADN	Not specified

Those Planning to Enroll Next Fall

Major Field	College
Nursing	Harper
Nursing	Unspecified
Para-Medical Pgm.	Harper
Dental Hygiene	Harper
Health Sciences	College of Dupage
Fire Science	University of Alaska

Those Enrolled Part-Time Presently

Major Field	College
Nursing	Harper
Nursing	St. Francis
Nursing	Unspecified
Nursing	Unspecified
Nursing	Unspecified
Math	Harper

Those Planning to Continue in the Future

Goal	Number
BSN	1
ADN	3
Don't know	3

E. Description of Employment

E-1.

Employer	Number	Percent
Northwest Community Hospital	15	44.1
Sherman Hospital	3	8.8
Alexian Brothers Hospital	2	5.9
Memorial Hospital of Dupage County	2	5.9
Lutheran General Hospital	1	3.0
Central Dupage Community Hospital	1	3.0
Holy Family Hospital	1	3.0
Evanston Hospital	1	3.0
Dr. Donald Schleifer, M.D. - Elgin	1	3.0
U.S. Army Fifth Combat Support Hospital Ft. Bragg, North Carolina	1	2.9
Base Fire Department , Eielson AFT, Seattle	1	2.9
Eagle Supermarket, Schaumburg	1	2.9
Arlington Theater	1	2.9
Skokie Police Department	1	2.9
Prudential Life Insurance	1	2.9
Not specified	1	2.9
	34	100.0

E-2.

Job Title	Number	Percent
Operating Room Technician	27	79.4
Registered Nurse	2	5.9
Medical Claims Examiner	1	3.0
Fire Protection Specialist - Paramedic	1	2.9
Police Woman	1	2.9
Cashier	2	5.9
	34	100.0

F.

Present Job Category

Working as an Operating Room Technician	27	79.4
Working in another health field	4	11.8
Working in a non-helath field	3	8.8
	34	100.0

G.

Present Salary Range or Part-time Hourly Rate

$4,160 - $4,999 per year or $2.00 - $2.39 per hour	1	2.9
$5,000 - $6,999 per year or $2.40 - $3.36 per hour	1	3.0
$7,000 - $8,999 per year or $3.37 - $4.32 per hour	20	58.8
$9,000 - $9,999 per year or $4.33 - $4.80 per hour	9	26.5
$10,000 - $11,999 per year or $4.81 - $5.76 per hour	2	5.9
$12,000 - $14,999 per year or $5.77 - $7.20 per hour	1	2.9
	34	100.0

Mean or average salary = $8,576
median salary = $8,750

H.

Geographic Area of Job	Distance Index	Number	Percent
Outer fringes of Chicago	1	3	8.8
Harper District	0	23	67.7
Other Chicago area suburbs	1	5	14.7
Within 40 to 100 miles of Chicago	3	1	2.9
Out-of-state	5	2	5.9
		34	100.0

Average distance index = .62

I.

How Harper Graduate Found Present Job	Number	Percent
Found job on their own	14	41.2
Coordinator of ORT helped student	8	23.5
Through clinical hospital work experience in program	4	11.8
Worked at same job while attending Harper	3	8.8
Faculty member helped student	2	5.9
Placement office helped	1	3.0
A friend helped	1	2.9
Air Force Recruiter	1	2.9
	34	100.0

J.

Difficulty in Finding a Job After Achieving ORT Certificate at Harper	Number	Percent
Had a great deal of difficulty - spent much time searching for a job	0	0
Had some difficulty finding job	5	15.2
Job was obtained fairly easily	28	84.8
Number of responses	33	100.0

K. Job Satisfaction

Aspect of Position	Average Satisfaction Index*	Percent Very Satisfied	Percent Very Satisfied or Satisfied
Physical environment	2.06	24.2	84.8
Institutional environment	2.03	21.9	81.3
Overall rating of job	2.03	21.9	81.3
People you work with	2.00	25.0	75.0
Present job duties	1.97	18.8	81.3
Salary and fringe benefits	1.88	24.2	69.7
Immediate supervisor	1.81	12.9	67.7
Future potential of job	1.44	6.3	50.0

*Very satisfied=3 satisfied=2 Mixed feelings=1 dissatisfied=0

L. Progress on National Certification Exam

Times Taken Exam	1973 Class	1974 Class	1975 Class	1976 Class	Total
Twice	2	0	1	0	3
Once	2	3	8	14	27
Never	2	7	1	2	12
Number passing exam	3	3	6	11	23
Percent of those passing of graduates who responded	50.0	30.0	60.0	68.8	54.8
Percent of those passing of those working as an ORT	100.0	75.0	85.7	78.6	82.1
Percent of those taking exam	75.0	100.0	66.7	78.6	76.7

M. Knowledge Areas in Present Job

M-1.
Importance of Various Knowledge Areas to ORT Harper Graduates in Present Job Situation

	Number of Responses				
Knowledge Area	Very Important Used Frequently Index = 2	Somewhat Important Used Occasionally Index = 1	Unimportant	Percent Who Felt It Was Very Important	Average Index
Knowledge of the principles and acceptable practices of asepsis	19	0	0	100	2.00
Basic knowledge of operative procedures	19	0	0	100	2.00
Knowledge of anatomy, physiology, microbiology, and pathological process	12	7	0	63.2	1.63
Understanding of the patient's psychological state and spiritual needs	12	6	1	63.2	1.58
Understanding of the principles of proper body alignment	11	7	1	57.9	1.53
Basic knowledge of current anesthetic agents and related hazards	5	14	0	26.3	1.26

Other knowledge areas mentioned which were very important to the Harper graduate on present job

1. Wants to be more helpful to surgical team (inadequtely prepared at Harper)
2. Names of various instruments (prepared adequately by Harper)
3. Circulating (no clinical training)
4. Filling out forms (no clinical training)

M-2.
Extent to Which Harper Prepared ORT Graduate
In the Various Knowledge Areas

Knowledge Area	Very Well Index=2	Adequately Index=1	Inadequately Index=0	Percent Who Feel Prepared Very Well	Average Index
Knowledge of the principles and acceptable practices of asepsis	18	0	0	100	2.00
Understanding of the principles of proper body alignment	10	8	0	55.6	1.56
Basic knowledge of operative procedures	10	7	1	55.6	1.50
Knowledge of anatomy, physiology, microbiology, and pathological process	8	9	0	47.1	1.47
Understanding of the patient's psychological state & spiritual needs	9	7	2	50.0	1.39
Basic knowledge of current anesthetic agents and related hazards	5	12	1	27.8	1.22

N. Present Job Duties

N-1.
Frequency of Performing Various Job Duties for Harper ORT Graduates

Job Duty	Frequency: Daily Index=3.0	Several Times Per Week Index=2.0	Occasionally Index=1.0	Never Index=0	Percent Performing Job Duty Daily	Average Frequency Index
Preparing self by dressing in proper operating room attire with cap and mask	18	1	0	0	94.7	2.95
Assists with gowning and gloving of members of surgical team	18	1	0	0	94.7	2.95
Scrubs in a prescribed manner and dons sterile gown and gloves	18	1	0	0	94.7	2.95
Arranges instruments and other sterile articles in specified fashion	18	1	0	0	94.7	2.95
Assist "circulating" nurse in setting up operating room with instruments and supplies peculiar to type of surgery	18	1	0	0	94.7	2.95
Takes sponge count and instrument count, as applicable	17	1	0	0	94.4	2.94
Anticipates surgeons needs and places appropriate equipment in his hands so that the surgeon need not divert attention from the operating field	17	2	0	0	89.5	2.89
Clean up table, care for instruments and specimen	17	1	1	0	89.5	2.84
Assist in preparation of room for next case	15	3	0	0	83.3	2.83
Assists with skin preparation and draping of patient	15	3	1	0	78.9	2.74

V-1. (Continued)
Frequency of Performing Various Job Duties
For Harper ORT Graduates

Job Duties	Frequency: Daily Index=3.0	Several Times Per Week Index=2.0	Occasionally Index=1.0	Never Index=0	Percent Performing Job Duty Daily	Average Frequency Index
Operates sterilizers and all equipment commonly used in operating room	9	8	2	0	47.4	2.37
Control the location of contaminated instruments and supplies to prevent spread of infection	10	3	5	0	55.6	2.28
As a housekeeping assistant, do damp duting, mopping, cleaning as directed	8	1	8	2	42.1	1.79
Assist with the positioning of the patient	5	4	9	1	26.3	1.68
Clean, assemble and sterilize instruments and equipment for surgical procedure trays	5	3	9	2	26.3	1.58
Act as workroom assistant	2	7	7	3	10.5	1.42

N-1. (Continued)
Frequency of Performing Various Job Duties
For Harper ORT Graduates

Job Duties	Frequency: Daily Index=3.0	Several Times Per Week Index=2.0	Occasionally Index=1.0	Never Index=0	Percent Performing Job Duty Daily	Average Frequency Index
Assist the anesthesiologist	1	2	14	2	5.3	1.11
Prepares, assembles and sterilizes linen packs, metal ware, glassware, rubber goods and synthetic products	4	1	5	9	21.1	1.00
Checks and orders as directed, sterile and unsterile supplies against list of linen, solutions drugs, etc.	4	0	7	8	21.1	1.00
Act as an aide in transporting patients	1	3	11	5	5.0	1.00
Clean and check sterilizing aparatus according to safety plan taught for care of autoclaves, pressure washers, ovens, etc.	3	2	4	10	15.8	.89
Checks, folds, and stores linen supplies	3	1	3	12	15.8	.74
Act as a telephone aide	2	1	5	11	10.5	.68
Act as a messenger, inter and intra departmental	1	0	8	10	5.3	.58
Distributes or stores supplies from general stores, pharmacy, central service, linen or sewing room	1	1	5	12	5.3	.53
Act as a clerical helper	1	2	3	13	5.3	.53
Prepares and sterilizes suture material as directed	1	0	3	15	5.3	.32

Other Job Duties Mentioned

Picking x-rays for special cases, mostly ortho was done daily by one graduate and person felt inadequately prepared for this job duty

N-2.
Degree to Which Harper ORT Graduates Were Prepared to Perform Specific Job Duties

Job Duty	Degree of Preparation: Very Well Index=2.0	Adequate Index=1.0	Inadequate Index=0	No Preparation Needed	Percent Who Feel Very Well Prepared	Mean Preparation Index
Preparing self by dressing in proper operating room attire with cap and mask	17	1	0	0	94.4	1.94
Assists with gowning and gloving of members of surgical team	17	1	0	0	94.4	1.94
Scrubs in a prescribed manner and dons sterile gown and gloves	16	2	0	0	88.9	1.89
Takes sponge count and instrument count as applicable	15	2	1	0	83.3	1.78
Arranges instruments and other sterile articles in specified fashion	13	5	0	0	72.2	1.72
Clean up table, care for instruments and specimen	10	8	0	0	55.6	1.56
Assist in preparation of room for next case	10	8	0	0	55.6	1.50
Assist "circulating" nurse in setting up operating room with instruments and supplies peculiar to type of surgery	10	7	1	0	55.6	1.50
Assist with positioning of the patient	9	9	0	0	50.0	1.50
Operates sterilizers and all equipment commonly used in operating room	9	8	1	0	50.0	1.44
As a housekeeping assistant - do damp dusting, mopping cleaning as directed	7	10	0	0	41.2	1.41
Anticipates surgeon's needs and places appropriate equipment in his hands so that the surgeon need not divert attention from the operating field	9	7	2	0	50.0	1.39

N-2. (Continued)
Degree to Which Harper ORT Graduates Were Prepared to Perform Specific Job Duties

Job Duty	Degree of Preparation: Very Well Index=2.0	Adequate Index=1.0	Inadequate Index=0	No Preparation Needed	Percent Who Feel Very Well Prepared	Mean Preparation Index
Assists with skin preparation and draping of patient	9	7	2	0	50.0	1.39
Act as an aide in transporting patients	6	8	1	1	37.5	1.33
Control the location of contaminated instruments and supplies to prevent spread of infection	7	7	3	0	41.2	1.24
Clean, assemble and sterilize instruments and equipment for surgical procedure trays	5	9	2	2	27.8	1.19
Prepares, assembles and sterilizes linen packs, metal ware, glassware, rubber goods and synthetic products	3	11	1	1	18.8	1.13
Act as a workroom assistant	4	11	2	1	22.2	1.12
Checks, folds, and stores linen supplies	1	8	1	5	6.7	1.00
Distributes or stores supplies from general stores, pharmacy, central service, linen or sewing room	1	6	3	6	6.3	.80
Prepares and sterilizes suture material as directed	1	4	4	6	6.7	.67
Acts as a messenger, inter and intra departmental	1	4	5	7	5.9	.60

N-2. (Continued)
Degree to Which Harper ORT Graduates Were Prepared to Perform Specific Job Duties

Job Duty	Degree of Preparation: Very Well Index=2.0	Adequate Index=1.0	Inadequate Index=0	No Preparation Needed	Percent Who Feel Very Well Prepared	Mean Preparation Index
Assist the anesthesiologist	0	9	7	2	0	.56
Act as a clerical helper	1	4	6	5	6.3	.55
Clean and check sterilizing apparatus according to safety plan taught for care of autoclaves, pressure washers, ovens, etc.	1	6	9	0	6.3	.50
Act as a telephone aide	1	3	7	4	6.7	.45

APPENDIX

William Rainey Harper College
Algonquin and Roselle Roads
Palatine, Illinois 60067
312-397-3000

AUGUST 27, 1976

Dear ORT Graduate:

We are always interested in the graduates of our Harper ORT program and in planning to meet the needs of our current and future students, you can be of great assistance to us by completing the enclosed forms and returning them to Dr. John Lucas.

If you are on campus and have the opportunity, please stop by and speak to us. We would be most happy to hear from you.

With kindest personal regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Shirley C. Phillips

Shirley C. Phillips
Coordinator
ORT Program

ph

William Rainey Harper College
Algonquin and Roselle Roads
Palatine, Illinois 60067
312-397-3000

October 15, 1976
OFFICE OF PLANNING AND RESEARCH

Dear ORT Graduate:

Approximately three weeks ago the Office of Planning and Research at Harper sent to you a questionnaire from Mrs. Shirley Phillips concerning the Operating Room Technician program. In order for this program to be more effective and compatible to your needs, we need your cooperation in filling out this form.

We would appreciate it very much if you would return this questionnaire to our office. If you have misplaced this questionnaire, please call 397-3000, ext. 263 and we will be glad to send another one. Thank you.

Sincerely,

John A. Lucas

John A. Lucas
Director

FOLLOW-UP OF OPERATING ROOM TECHNICIAN GRADUATES OF HARPER COLLEGE

I. Before you entered ORT program at Harper, what was your previous college education background? Check (✓) one.

_____ A. Had no previous college education
_____ B. Had taken courses but had not obtained a degree or certificate (specify major area of concentration) _____
_____ C. Had achieved a degree or certificate. Describe type of degree or certificate and major area of study _____

_____

II. What is your present status?

_____ A. I am employed full-time but am not enrolled in college.
_____ B. I am employed full-time and am enrolled in college part-time.
_____ C. I am employed full-time and am enrolled in college full-time.
_____ D. I am enrolled in college full-time and am employed part-time.
_____ E. I am enrolled in college full-time but am not employed.
_____ F. I am enrolled in college part-time and employed part-time.
_____ G. I am employed part-time but am not enrolled in college.
_____ H. I am enrolled in college part-time but am not employed.
_____ I. I am in the Armed Forces.
_____ J. I am unemployed and not enrolled in college but am seeking employment.
_____ K. I am a housewife not employed nor enrolled in college.
_____ L. I am not employed nor enrolled in college for some other reason such as illness or in transition, etc.

III. What are your present educational goals? Check (✓) one.

_____ A. I am enrolled in the fall of 1976 full-time. Specify college and major area of study _____
_____ B. I am enrolled in the fall of 1976 part-time. Specify college and major area of study _____
_____ C. Plan to enroll in a college within the next year. Specify the college and major area of study _____
_____ D. Plan to continue my education sometime in the future. Specify future goal _____
_____ E. Have no plans at present to continue my education.
_____ F. Am undecided about my future educational plans.

Employment Items

IV. If you are employed full-time or part-time, please answer the following questions. (If you are unemployed at present stop here. Thank you for your cooperation.) Please list name and address of employer.

_____

_____

What is your job title? _____

V. Describe your present position. Check (✓) one.

_____ A. Working as an ORT.
_____ B. Working in another health field (describe) _____
_____
_____ C. Working in a non-health field (describe) _____
_____

VI. What is your salary range?

_____ A. Under $3,328 per year or under $1.60 per hour
_____ B. $3,328 - $4,159 per year or $1.60 - $1.99 per hour
_____ C. $4,160 - $4,999 per year or $2.00 - $2.39 per hour
_____ D. $5,000 - $6,999 per year or $2.40 - $3.36 per hour
_____ E. $7,000 - $8,999 per year or $3.37 - $4.32 per hour
_____ F. $9,000 - $9,999 per year or $4.33 - $4.80 per hour
_____ G. $10,000 - $11,999 per year or $4.81 - $5.76 per hour
_____ H. $12,000 - $14,999 per year or $5.77 - $7.20 per hour
_____ I. $15,000 - $19,999 per year or $7.21 - $9.61 per hour
_____ J. $20,000 - $25,000 per year or $9.62 - $12.02 per hour
_____ K. Over $25,000 per year or over $12.02 per hour

VII. In what geographic area do you work?

_____ A. Downtown Chicago
_____ B. Outer fringes of Chicago city limits
_____ C. Northwestern Suburban Area (Barrington, Hoffman Estates, Schaumburg, Palatine, Rolling Meadows, Arlington Heights, Mt. Propsect, Prospect Heights, Wheeling, Buffalo Grove, Elk Grove)
_____ D. Other Chicago area suburbs
_____ E. Within 40 to 100 miles of Chicago
_____ F. In Illinois more than 100 miles from Chicago
_____ G. Outside of Illinois (specify) _____
_____

VIII. How did you find your job? Check (✓) one.

_____ A. The Placement Office helped me find it.
_____ B. The coordinator of ORT helped me find it.
_____ C. Another faculty member helped me.
_____ D. A friend helped me.
_____ E. Found my job through another source (specify) _____
_____ F. I found my job all on my own.
_____ G. I am working on the samejob which I had since I first enrolled at Harper, thus I have not looked for a job since I first enrolled at Harper.

IX. How would you describe the difficulty you had in finding a job after achieving your ORT certificate at Harper? Check (✓) one.

_____ A. A great deal of difficulty. I spent much time in searching for a job.
_____ B. I had some difficulty in finding my job.
_____ C. My job was obtained relatively easily.

X. Describe your present job satisfaction. Check (✓) one column for each row.

Aspect of Position	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Mixed Feelings	Dissatisfied
Immediate supervisory				
People you work with				
Present job duties				
Future potential of job				
Physical environment				
Institutional environment				
Salary and fringe benefits				
Overall rating of your job				

XI. How many times have you taken the National Certification exam? _____

XII. Have you passed the National Certification exam? _____ Yes _____ No

If you are not working as an ORT, you can stop here. Thank you for your cooperation. If you are working as an ORT, please answer the last few questions on the next page.

XIII. What areas of knowledge are important for you as an ORT and how well did Harper prepare you in these areas?

Knowledge Area	To what extent is this knowledge area important on your present job. Check (✓) one column for each area.			To what extent did Harper prepare you well in these areas? Check (✓) one column for each area.		
	Very Important Use It Frequently	Somewhat Important Use It Occasionally	Unimportant	Very Well	Adequately	Inadequately
Knowledge of anatomy, physiology, microbiology and pathological process						
Knowledge of the principles and acceptable practices of asepsis						
Basic knowledge of operative procedures						
Basic knowledge of current anesthetic agents and related hazards						
Understanding of the principles of proper body alignment						
Understanding of the patient's psychological state and spiritual needs						
Other (specify)						

XIV. What are your job duties and how well prepared were you for each duty?

Job Duty	How frequently do you perform this job duty? Check (✓) one column for each duty. Daily	Several Times Per Week	Occasionally	Never	How well did Harper prepare you for this job duty? Check (✓) one column for each duty. Very Well	Adequately	Inadequately	No Preparation Necessary
Assist the anesthesiologist								
Assist with the positioning of the patient								
Operates sterilizers and all equipment commonly used in operating room								
Acts as a scrub assistant by:								
Preparing self by dressing in proper operating room attire with cap and mask								
Assist "circulating" nurse in setting up operating room with instruments and supplies peculiar to type of surgery								
Scrubs in prescribed manner and dons sterile gown & gloves								
Arranges instruments and other sterile articles in specified fashion								
Takes sponge count and instrument count, as applicable								
Assists with skin preparation and draping of patient								
Assists with gowning and gloving of members of surgical team								
Anticipates surgeon's needs and places appropriate equipment in his hands so that the surgeon need not divert attention from the operating field								

Job Duty (cont.)	Daily	Several Times Per Week	Occasionally	Never	Very Well	Adequately	Inadequately	No Preparation Necessary
Control the location of contaminated instruments and supplies to prevent spread of infection								
Clean up table, care for instruments and specimen								
Assist in preparation of room for next case								
Act as workroom assistant								
Clean, assemble and sterilize instruments and equipment for surgical procedure trays								
Clean and check sterilizing apparatus according to safety plan taught for care of autoclaves, pressure washers, ovens, etc.								
Checks, folds, and stores linen supplies								
Checks and orders as directed, sterile and unsterile supplies against inventory list, i.e. linen, solutions, drugs								
Prepares, assembles and sterilizes linen packs, metal ware, glassware, rubber goods and synthetic products								
Distributes or stores supplies from general stores, pharmacy, central service, linen or sewing room								
Prepares and sterilizes suture material as directed								

Job Duty	Daily	Several Times Per Week	Occasionally	Never	Very Well	Adequately	Inadequately	No Preparation Necessary
As a housekeeping assistant - do damp dusting, mopping, cleaning as directed	____	_____	_____	____	___	_____	_____	_____
Act as a clerical helper	____	_____	_____	____	___	_____	_____	_____
Act as a messenger, inter and intra departmental	____	_____	_____	____	___	_____	_____	_____
Act as an aide in transporting patients	____	_____	_____	____	___	_____	_____	_____
Act as a telephone aide	____	_____	_____	____	___	_____	_____	_____
Other (specify)								
_____	____	_____	_____	____	___	_____	_____	_____
_____	____	_____	_____	____	___	_____	_____	_____

XV. Who is your immediate supervisor? Check (✓) one.

_____ A. An R.N. (specify job title such as head operating nurse, etc.)
_____

_____ B. Other (specify education level and job title) _____
_____

XVI. Do you ever administer medications (oral, hypodermic, intramuscular or topical) or anesthetic agents? Check (✓) one.

_____ A. Yes, often
_____ B. Yes, occasionally
_____ C. Never

XVII. Are there skills and duties you feel you are qualified for and would like to perform but are not allowed to perform in your present position? If so, describe.

_____
_____
_____

XVIII. Look at the following courses in the ORT curriculum at Harper and rate them as to the benefit they have been to you on your present job. Check (✓) one column for each course. If you didn't take course, leave blank.

Course	Very Beneficial In Present Position	Beneficial	Of Some Benefit In Present Position	Of Little Benefit Now But Will Be Beneficial In Future	Of Little Benefit
BIO 100 - Human Biology I					
BIO 102 - Human Biology II					
BIO 160 - Human Anatomy					
BIO 161 - Human Physiology					
HSC 112 - Medical Terminology					
PSY 101 - Introduction to Psychology					
ORT 101 - Operating Room Techniques I					
ORT 102 - Operating Room Techniques II					
ORT 103 - Operating Room Techniques III					
ORT 111 - Clinical Hospital Practicum I					
ORT 112 - Clinical Hospital Practicum II					
ORT 113 - Clinical Hospital Practicum III					

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